



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan
District of Massachusetts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MA

CONTACT: CHRISTINA STERLING
PHONE: (617) 748-3356
CHRISTINA.STERLING@USDOJ.GOV

BROCKTON MAN SENTENCED TO 16 YEARS ON FEDERAL DRUG OFFENSE

BOSTON, MA - A Brockton man was sentenced yesterday in federal court on a federal drug charge.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Glenn N. Anderson, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Boston Field Division; Colonel Mark F. Delaney, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Timothy J. Cruz, Plymouth County District Attorney; and Chief William Conlon of the Brockton Police Department, announced that **SIR DWAYNE HICKS**, 32, of 56 Ithaca Road, Brockton, Massachusetts was sentenced to 190 months in federal prison, to be followed by 8 years of supervised release.

On June 27, 2007, **HICKS** pled guilty to an Indictment charging him with one count of distribution of over 5 grams of crack cocaine in Brockton. At the earlier hearing, **HICKS** admitted to selling approximately 5 grams of crack cocaine to a government's cooperating witness on February 18, 2005 outside of a local store. The crack sale was videotaped and recorded by local police and federal agents.

HICKS, along with eight others, was charged on August 25, 2005, as part of an on-going effort to reduce firearm-related violence in the Brockton area. The Plymouth County District Attorney's Office and Brockton Police Department, along with the ATF, Massachusetts State Police and the U.S. Attorney's Office began an investigation in November, 2004 in the Brockton area with the goal of reducing gang and drug activity and the number of guns available on the streets. As a result of that effort, a total of 7 guns as well as a significant amount of ammunition and crack cocaine were removed from the streets.

The cases were prosecuted as part of President Bush's Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, aimed at providing a comprehensive, strategic approach to reducing gun violence in America. Since 2002, when the U.S. Attorney's Office implemented the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, eleven cities across the state, including Brockton, have joined in the program.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Boston Field Division, Massachusetts State Police and the Brockton Police Department. The U.S. Attorney's Office would like to acknowledge the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office for their assistance in this investigation and their continued support of PSN. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Glenn MacKinlay, Project Safe Neighborhoods and Anti-Gang Coordinator in Sullivan's Strike Force Unit.

###